



Petrified Forest



Welcome!

Even in a region graced with so many wonderful national park areas, Petrified Forest National Park is a unique place. Along with the strange and beautiful Painted Desert, hundreds of archeological sites, a National Historic Landmark, stretches of native grassland, and one of the largest petrified wood deposits in the world, Petrified Forest also offers a chance for silence, solitude, and contemplation.

Most of our visitors concentrate along the overlooks and short trails of the 28-mile park road. In summer, our busiest season, parking areas are packed and facilities are crowded. Like many of the national parks, years of use have made an impact.

Fortunately, the concern and efforts of National Park employees, volunteers, and our visitors aid in the stewardship of Petrified Forest National Park. One of the biggest dangers our park faces is the illegal removal of park resources, particularly petrified wood. With the help of visitors, this selfish act can diminish.

Join us in preserving and protecting one of the most fascinating national parks. Walk the trails amidst ancient petrified logs, take in the wide vistas of the Painted Desert, discover voices of the past in the petroglyphs, listen to the silence of wilderness.

Enjoy your park!

Cliff Spencer, Superintendent

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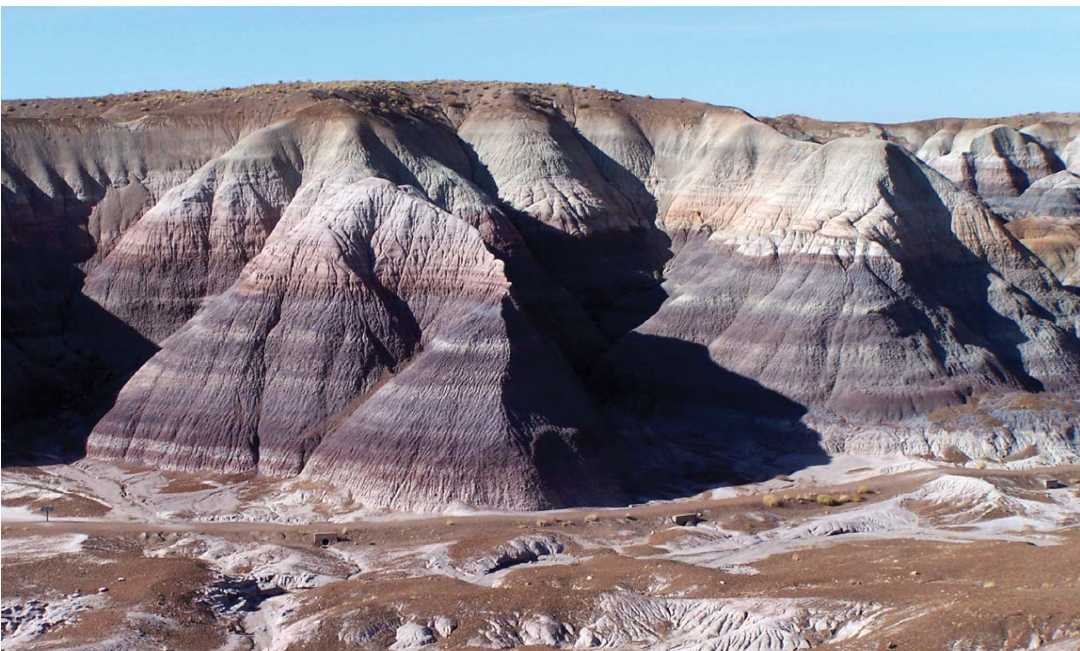
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Trails and Safety at Petrified Forest National Park








Out of the Car and On the Trail

The best way to enjoy and experience Petrified Forest National Park is on foot. Designated trails range in length from less than a half-mile to three miles.

Stay on designated trails in developed hiking areas. Off-trail hiking damages the fragile grassland environment and disturbs wildlife habitat, creating unsightly “social” trails. Leaving the designated trail can also be hazardous for hikers due to loose rock and dangerous cliffs. Pets must be kept on leash at all times. Pets are not permitted in the park buildings, in Wilderness Area or on Wilderness access trails (except for service animals). Please clean up after your animal; use the trash receptacles. Bicycles are not allowed on trails or off roads at any time.



Blue Mesa Trail

Trail	Trailhead	Length	Description	
Painted Desert Rim	Tawa and Kachina Points	1-mile round trip		This trail winds through the rim woodland, a place for chance encounters of many species of plants and animals. The view of the Painted Desert is spectacular. Please do not harm animals or plants in the park.
Puerco Pueblo	Puerco Pueblo parking lot	0.3-mile loop		Walk amidst the remains of a hundred room village, occupied by the ancestral Puebloan people between A.D. 1250 and 1400. Do not climb on the boulders or walls. Please do not touch petroglyphs.
Blue Mesa	Blue Mesa sunshelter on the Blue Mesa road	1-mile loop Moderate to strenuous		Descending from the mesa, this trail loops among petrified wood deposits and badland hills of bluish bentonite clay. Plant fossils, including delicate ferns, have been found in the sedimentary layers of Blue Mesa. Please leave them for others to enjoy.
Crystal Forest	Crystal Forest parking lot	0.75-mile loop		Despite more than a century of collecting, a few beautiful crystals hide in the petrified logs of Crystal Forest. Please leave the petrified wood for others to enjoy. Report anyone removing petrified wood from the park.
Long Logs	Rainbow Forest parking area	1.6-mile loop		Long Logs is one of the largest concentrations of petrified wood in the park. Explore this ancient log jam at the base of gray badlands. Do not climb on the badland hills.
Agate House	Rainbow Forest parking area	2-miles round trip		Archeologists believe that this small pueblo was occupied for a short time about 700 years ago. Seasonal farmers or traders possibly built Agate House as a temporary home. <i>Long Logs and Agate House Trails can be combined, as they start from the same trail head, for a total of 2.6 miles round trip.</i>
Giant Logs <i>Trail guide available in the Museum</i>	Behind Rainbow Forest Museum	0.4-mile loop		Giant Logs features some of the largest and most colorful logs in the park. “Old Faithful”, at the top of the trail, is almost ten feet across the base.



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Safety

Stay on the designated trails. Do not go beyond protective fencing. Avoid cliff edges.

Be aware of symptoms of high altitude sickness: nausea, dizziness, headache, rapid heartbeat, and shortness of breath. Keep hydrated, rest, snack lightly, avoid alcohol and cigarettes.

Wear sunglasses with UV protection, hat, and sunscreen.

Wild animals can carry diseases including rabies, hanta virus, and plague. Do not handle or allow your pets near any live or dead animals. Avoid nests and burrows.

If you are injured or ill while visiting the park, contact a ranger at any visitor center.

For Lost and Found, contact any visitor center or call the park at 928-524-6228.

Yellow emergency phones are located at Puerco Pueblo, Blue Mesa, and Crystal Forest. The park number for emergency only is 928-524-9726.

Activities at Petrified Forest National Park



The colors glow late in the afternoon at Battleship Rock.

Points of Interest and Facilities

In order as seen from north to south:

Painted Desert Visitor Center provides information, book sales, exhibits, and restrooms. A free orientation film is shown every half hour. A restaurant, gift shop, gas station, and convenience store are adjacent to the visitor center.

Tiponi, Tawa, Kachina, Chinde, Pintado, Nizhoni, Whipple, And Lacey Points are overlooks providing panoramic views of the Painted Desert.

Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark, located at Kachina Point, once served as a respite for travelers along historic Route 66. From the inn, you may view distant vistas and exhibits while touring this historic building.

Puerco Pueblo, a large archeological site, was occupied over 600 years ago. The pueblo has been partially excavated and a few of the room foundations stabilized.

Newspaper Rock has more than 650 petroglyphs adorning boulders that tumbled to rest below the cliffs. Due to defacement of these petroglyphs and unstable hillsides, the area is closed below the cliff. Free spotting scopes are available at the viewpoint.

Blue Mesa is an ideal setting to see the effect of erosion on badland hills. The one-way spur road leads to the mesa top, a four-mile round trip from the main park road.

Jasper Forest showcases bluffs which once encased the petrified wood now strewn across the valley floor.

Crystal Forest, Long Logs, Agate House, and Giant Logs are all trails that feature the many wonders of Petrified Forest. Refer to the Trails section for more information.

Rainbow Forest Museum provides exhibits of petrified wood, fossils, and displays of prehistoric animals as well as information, book sales, and restrooms. A free orientation film is shown every half hour. A gift shop and a seasonal snack bar are located nearby.



Ranger Guided Programs

Ranger programs are available throughout the year. You probably won't be surprised that there are more programs available during our busy summer. There are three main programs:

Triassic Park: Discover the landscape of long ago and learn about the Late Triassic Epoch. Meet in the Rainbow Forest Museum sunroom. This will be either an easy Ranger-guided walk (with a few stairs) or a talk, depending on weather and interest.

Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark: Step back in time to learn about the inn's captivating history and architecture. Meet at the Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark for this easy Ranger-guided tour.

Puerco Pueblo: Explore this ancestral Puebloan village and discover petroglyphs along the trail. Meet at the Puerco Pueblo parking lot trailhead for this easy Ranger-guided walk.

Additional activities, and events occur throughout the year. Call 928-524-6228 for more information, check at one of the visitor facilities when you come to the park, or visit <http://www.nps.gov/pefo>.



Exploring Petrified Forest

A Timeless Treasure Trove

Imagine a place that protects pieces of natural and cultural history, from artifacts centuries old to fossils millions of years old. This place is the Petrified Forest National Park Museum Collection. More than 200,000 objects are housed in the collection, including archeological objects recovered from hundreds of sites within the park's boundaries and associated field records; ethnological objects related to Hopi and Navajo cultures; Triassic fossils; Park Photographic Archive; representative geological specimens collected from the park; and the biological collection (both plants and animals). The museum collection provides a window of discovery into the Late Triassic—its flora, fauna, and geology, as well as millennia of human use and occupation, and the current environment—an aid to understanding and education among researchers, park staff, and park visitors. Explore some of the objects in the collection at the Rainbow Forest Museum and at <http://www.museum.nps.gov/pefo/page.htm>.



Laccopteris smithii was a fern in the Late Triassic.

What's Over There?

Paula wanted to find a quiet spot all her own to meditate. She saw the perfect place. It was just a dozen yards off-trail to the top of a sandstone outcrop, and she could take a picture with that really long petrified log in the foreground. Brian saw footprints an hour later, after Paula had gone, and wondered what there was to see from that vantage point. Kim did the same. By noon, 30 people had followed in Paula's footsteps. By the next day, over a hundred had followed, leaving their marks. The trail Paula accidentally cleared divided in half a large patch of microbiotic soil, a living crust that protects the precious topsoil. She had carved an eight-lane freeway through that miniature world and opened it to erosion. The nutrients and moisture retention of that delicate system was gone and the animals and plants that depended on it would suffer. Paula's meditation spot became a place of quiet destruction.

We each have made an effort to come and experience this place. It also takes the effort of every visitor to protect it. "Taking only pictures, leaving only footprints" is not enough in this landscape. Where there is a designated trail, regulations require that you leave your footprints only on the trail. In the Wilderness Areas, watch where you step and follow washes when possible. Together we can protect this fragile and fascinating region.

Programs and Activities



Navajo County Fair



Cultural demonstrations: Hopi pottery firing

Special Event Calendar

- March** Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month
- April** National Park Week, last full week in April
- Summer** Cultural Demonstrators: Most Saturdays through the summer, visit with silversmiths, dancers, weavers and other demonstrators, many with items for sale.
- June** Summer Solstice Celebration June 14-28—for about a two week period around the summer solstice, join rangers each morning to watch sunlight and shadow interact with a petroglyph at Puerco Pueblo.
- August** Founders Day: anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, August 25.
- September** National Public Lands Day: Last Saturday in September
- Navajo County Fair: county fairgrounds in Holbrook.
- November** National American Indian Heritage Month
- December** Petrified Forest’s Anniversary, December 8-9

Check for more special activities and details at the park website <http://www.nps.gov/pefo> or call 928-524-6228.



Archaeology Month



Out in the field with an Archeologist

Science and Education Center

Petrified Forest is a living laboratory for many fields. The Petrified Forest National Park Science and Education Center offers a chance for park visitors, employees, and researchers to get together—a time for better understanding and appreciation of the natural and cultural resources of the park and region. Lectures are held on a regular basis. Topics include geology, paleontology, archeology, and biology. Join us to discover Petrified Forest’s many facets! For more information contact the park, stop by the visitor facilities, or visit <http://www.nps.gov/pefo>.



Evening program with a ranger



Paleontologist prepares a phytosaur



Artist Shonto Begay at the Painted Desert Inn

Artist-In-Residence Program

Artists have influenced the formation, expansion, and direction of our national parks. The work of many artists has also assisted in providing perspectives at parks, creating meaningful experiences for visitors. Artists document national parks through diverse approaches and techniques, including painting, poetry, photography, prose, and music, reflecting the multi-faceted qualities of parks, bringing enjoyment and a deeper understanding of the parks.

Founded in 2006 as part of the park’s Centennial Celebration, Petrified Forest National Park’s Artist-in-Residence Program continues this tradition. The program offers visual, performing, and literary artists the opportunity to pursue their artistic discipline while being surrounded by Petrified Forest’s inspiring landscape. Selected artists stay in the park for two-weeks during April through October. Artists are prepared to work in this sometimes demanding environment.

Participating artists are asked to donate an original piece of artwork from their residency in Petrified Forest to the park. The artwork will be accessioned into the park’s permanent museum collection. Artists will also present two programs to the public during their residency.

Aspire to share your vision of Petrified Forest National Park with the public through the world of art. Work completed under this program contributes to the public understanding and appreciation of our national parks and create a legacy preserved for future generations.

The application form and more details can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/pefo/parknews/artist-in-residence.htm>.

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Photographer Fred Hirschmann with visitors in the field



Artist Gloria Giffords giving a presentation

Wilderness and Camping at Petrified Forest National Park



North unit of the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area

Forest unit, campers must hike at least a half mile southeast of the main park road near the Flattops. There are no maintained campsites in the wilderness area.

Wilderness Hiking and Camping

The Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area was one of the first two designated in the National Park System. What is wilderness? The concept is different for everyone. Artists may see shapes and color; backpackers anticipate an adventure; legislators define it in legal terms. In general, wilderness is a place where the human imprint is minimal. In 1964 Congress passed the Wilderness Act, restricting grazing, mining, timber cutting and mechanized vehicles in these areas. Wilderness Areas are protected and valued for their ecological, historical, scientific and experiential resources. The Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area consists of over 50,000 acres of mesas, buttes, badlands, and scattered areas of grasslands.

No permits are required for day hiking. Wilderness hiking offers the opportunity to visit sites seldom seen by most park visitors. There are no developed trails; hiking is cross-country. Clear air, sparse vegetation, and a variety of landmarks combine to make hiking conditions excellent. Be prepared! There is no water and little shade in the backcountry. A gallon of water per person per day is recommended in summer months. Day hikers must be back at their vehicles by the park’s posted closing time.

There are two units in the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area. The Painted Desert unit is at the north end of the park, accessed from Kachina Point. The trailhead can be found on the northwest side of the Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark. Campers must hike at least one linear mile from the trailhead at Kachina Point or north of the Lithodendron Wash. The Rainbow Forest unit is at the south end of the park, accessed from the parking area at mile marker 24 south of the Flattops. In the Rainbow

Horseback riding and pack animals are permitted in the wilderness. All information and regulations contained in this article pertain to horse use in the wilderness.

A permit for backcountry camping may be obtained for a maximum of 14 consecutive days. The campsite must be relocated every three days to minimize impacts on the resource. Camping is allowed for not more than a total of 30 days in any calendar year park-wide. All permit applicants must read and sign the permit conditions sheet before being issued a permit.

Regulations:

- Collection of plants, rocks, petrified wood, fossils, archeological objects or other materials is illegal everywhere in the park.
- No bicycles or motorized vehicles are allowed in the wilderness area.
- Camping in the park without a permit is prohibited.
- Group size for staying in the wilderness area overnight is limited to eight (8) persons per group. Use of campsites is limited to eight (8) persons.
- No wood or charcoal fires are allowed. The use of solar, propane/butane, and white gas fueled stoves is allowed in wilderness camping areas. Charcoal fires are not allowed in wilderness camping areas.
- Bury human waste. Pack out your trash.



South unit of the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area

Horseback Riding and Pack Animals

The park offers diverse riding and packing opportunities in the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area.

- When using parking areas, please leave room for other visitors to park.
- Park your trailer so that it does not interfere with vehicle traffic flow.
- Follow all park regulations.
- Clean up after horses in improved areas (parking lots, paved areas, etc).
- All food and water must be packed in. Feed must be certified weed-free.
- Do not leave horses unattended, to prevent encounters with other park visitors. Free-trailing or loose-herding is not permitted. Horses are prohibited on paved trails, paved roads and around visitor use areas.
- Water for horses may be obtained at the service station by the Painted Desert Visitor Center. No water is available in the wilderness area.
- Animals are limited to six (6) per group.

The trail down to the northern unit of the wilderness area can be very steep with an unstable surface. While there are no maintained trails in the wilderness areas, there is very little grade change and riding is easy. Petrified wood is sharp and can cause damage to stock hooves. Take care of yourself, your stock, and your park.



Did You Know?

Many of the park’s animals are nocturnal: they only come out at night. Some visitors will see few animals except for ravens. However, hundreds of species of animals make their home here, including jackrabbits, golden eagles, red-spotted toads, and tarantulas.

Education, Junior Rangers, and Volunteers

Junior Ranger Program

Junior Rangers take time to explore, learn and protect their national parks. Kids of any age who complete the required activities in the Petrified Forest Junior Ranger Activity Booklet are eligible for a Junior Park Ranger Badge and Patch. Stop at the Painted Desert Visitor Center, Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark, or Rainbow Forest Museum to request an activity booklet.

We invite YOU to become a member of this very special group of people. Help protect our national parks and join the team. Become a Petrified Forest National Park Junior Ranger today!



Junior Rangers are sworn in by one of the rangers

Education Programs

Educators! Bring your students to Petrified Forest National Park for a ranger-led program that will meet your curriculum needs. The park has endeavored to provide motivating educational opportunities for students while meeting several Arizona Academic Standards. We are always delighted to have classes visit the park with the desire to learn more about this extraordinary place.

Petrified Forest offers:

- Developed Curriculum-based programs on paleontology and archeology,
- Other ranger programs designed to meet specific curriculum needs,
- In-class programs, when a ranger brings the park to your students.

For information write to: Education Specialist, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest, AZ 86028
Call the Education Specialist at 928-524-6228
E-mail: PEFO_Superintendent@nps.gov



Students explore science through curriculum-based programs at Petrified Forest



Volunteers help in the visitor facilities and out in the park

Volunteers—Very Important People

Have you read the headlines lately? Vandals Destroy Petroglyphs—Fossils are Stolen From Park—Petrified Wood Theft Continues. This is what is happening on our public lands, lands set aside for everyone to enjoy. How can an interested person help deter the increasing damage to our cherished lands? Become a volunteer at Petrified Forest National Park!

Volunteers receive training about the park, including the fascinating scientific discoveries being made here and the problems in protecting our park. Volunteers may work directly with the public at visitor centers, rove trails, aid researchers, or delve into the park collection with our museum curator. Volunteers are an important part of the National Park Service team. Volunteers make the visitor experience in parks more enjoyable.



Volunteers help behind the scenes to make the park more enjoyable

Our volunteers are, without a doubt, Very Important People! Last year, nearly 150,000 volunteers donated 5 million hours of their time to national parks. The national parks belong to all of us and they need our protection. No one else will do it for us. If you care, please join us as a VIP, Volunteer-In-Park: learn something wonderful, meet new people, and make a difference.


For information write to: Volunteer Coordinator, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest, AZ 86028
Call the Volunteer Coordinator at 928-524-6228
E-mail: PEFO_Superintendent@nps.gov



Did You Know?

Unlike hieroglyphs, petroglyphs don't represent sounds or letters. They represent ideas. Researchers theorize that some petroglyphs could be ceremonial, territorial, or commemorative. People of Zuni and Hopi recognize many of the petroglyphs in the park.

Area Information, Climate, Museum Association, and Park Fees



National Park Service

Petrified Forest National Park

Mailing Address
Petrified Forest National Park
P.O. Box 2217
Petrified Forest, AZ 86028

E-mail
PEFO_Superintendent@nps.gov

Fax Number
928-524-3567

Park Headquarters
928-524-6228

Website
<http://www.nps.gov/pefo>

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Petrified logs in the snow.

	Climatic Averages for Petrified Forest (based on a fifty year period)			
Month	Average Max Temperature °F	Average Min Temperature °F	Average Daily Precipitation (inches)	Average Monthly Precipitation (inches)
Jan	47.5	21	0.018	0.571
Feb	54	25	0.018	0.521
March	61	29	0.0195	0.606
April	70	35	0.012	0.371
May	79	43	0.014	0.446
June	89	52	0.012	0.348
July	92	60	0.042	1.311
Aug	89	59	0.056	1.744
Sept	83.5	52	0.041	1.227
Oct	72	40	0.032	1.001
Nov	58.5	37	0.022	0.672
Dec	48	21	0.022	0.679
Total	-	-	-	9.497

Area Information

The park does not provide any lodging facilities and camping is limited to backpacking into the wilderness area. Nearby communities, national forests, and state parks have a variety of motels and camping offerings. Communities also offer other services and businesses. For more information:

Gallup Chamber of Commerce
<http://www.thegallupchamber.com/>
505-722-2228

Holbrook Chamber of Commerce
<http://www.ci.holbrook.az.us/>
1-800-524-2459

Winslow Chamber of Commerce
<http://winslowarizona.org/>
928-289-2434

For road conditions call:
Arizona 1-888-411-7623 (or 511 in Arizona)
<http://www.az511.com>

New Mexico 1-800-432-4269
<http://www.nmroads.com/>

Petrified Forest Museum Association

Promoting Interpretive and Educational Programs
Promoting Scientific Research and Resource Understanding
Producing Park-Specific Publications and Materials
Preparing the park for Future Generations
Become a Member of the Petrified Forest Museum Association and help support your park!



Membership Benefits
An initial 20% discount on anything purchased along with the membership

15% discount at all Petrified Forest Museum Association bookstores, and 10-20% discount at other national park bookstores around the country

Added Benefits
Individual members receive *Petrified Forest: a Story in Stone*.

Teacher members receive *Petrified Forest: a Story in Stone* and a 25% discount at the Petrified Forest National Park bookstores.

Family members also receive our film *Timeless Impressions*.

Supporting members receive the premium items of the previous membership levels, plus the PFMA publication *Tapamveni: Rock Art of the Southwest*.

Contributing members receive the premium items of the previous membership levels, plus three PFMA puzzles.

Steward members receive the premium items of the previous membership levels, plus additional premium items.

Lifetime members receive all current PFMA publications and all new PFMA publications annually.

Benefactor members receive all the benefits of the lifetime membership plus an appreciation plaque for their contribution to our efforts at Petrified Forest National Park.

Contact: 928-524-6228 x239
Email: pfmabookstore@cybertrails.com
Website: <http://www.cybertrails.com/~pfma/>



Fees and Passes

Petrified Forest Entrance Fees
\$20 annual pass to Petrified Forest
\$10 per private vehicle for a seven-day pass
\$5 per person: bicycles, pedestrians, motorcycle, and non-commercial bus passenger
Fees subject to change at any time.

National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Program
Passes admit the pass holder/s and passengers in a non-commercial vehicle at per vehicle fee areas, not to exceed 4 adults at per person fee areas. Children under 16 are free. Both the Senior and Access Passes provide a 50% discount for some fees, such as camping, swimming, boat launch, and specialized interpretive services.

Annual Pass – \$80: can be obtained in person at the park, by calling 1-888-ASK USGS, Ext. 1, or via the Internet at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass>.

Senior Pass—\$10: lifetime for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over. The pass can only be obtained in person at the park.

Access Pass—Free: lifetime for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Acceptable documentation is required to obtain the pass. The pass can only be obtained in person at the park.

Volunteer Pass—Free: for volunteers with 500 service hours on a cumulative basis.

Name_____		
Address_____		
City_____State____Zip_____		
Credit Card#_____Expiration_____		
Phone (____)_____		
Mail To:	Individual	\$25.00
	Teacher	\$25.00
	Family	\$35.00
Petrified Forest	Supporting	\$50.00
Museum Association	Contributing	\$100.00
Park Rd. 1 - P.O. Box 2277	Steward	\$250.00
Petrified Forest, AZ 86028	Lifetime	\$1000.00
	Benefactor	\$5000.00

Park Map and Information

Park Hours of Operation

Summer hours are 7 am to 7 pm Mountain Standard Time. Winter hours are 8 am to 5 pm MST, with transitional hours of operation during spring and fall.

Rules and Regulations

Do not remove any natural or cultural object from the park, including fossils, rocks, animals, plants, artifacts, etc.

Vehicle travel is limited to the paved park road and park areas open to the public.

Observe speed limit signs, which range between 15 and 45 miles per hour.

Park or stop in designated areas. Do not stop in the middle of the road.

Bicycles are permitted only on the paved park roads and parking areas open to the public. Bikes are not allowed off road at any time or on any trails.

Pets must be leashed (no longer than 6 feet) and physically restrained at all times. Pets are not allowed in buildings, except for service animals. Pets may be tied to an object for short periods of time (less than 5 min.) in developed areas or during emergencies. Clean up after your pet and deposit in trash receptacles!

Do not litter, including cigarette butts. Use appropriate trash receptacles.

Please recycle aluminum and plastic containers in the appropriate receptacles.

Public use of the park is prohibited during closed hours except by permit.

Camping in the park without a permit or outside of the wilderness area is prohibited.

Do not climb on prehistoric or historic walls or other structures.

Do not harm or remove any petroglyphs. Physical contact with any type of rock art is prohibited.

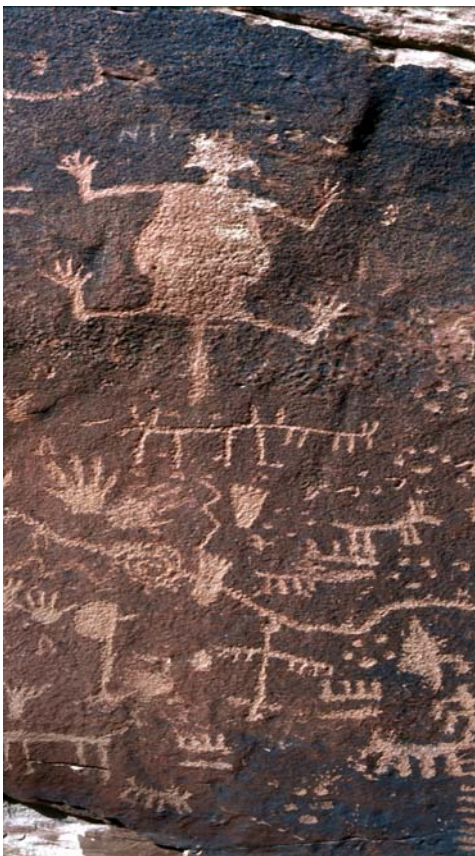
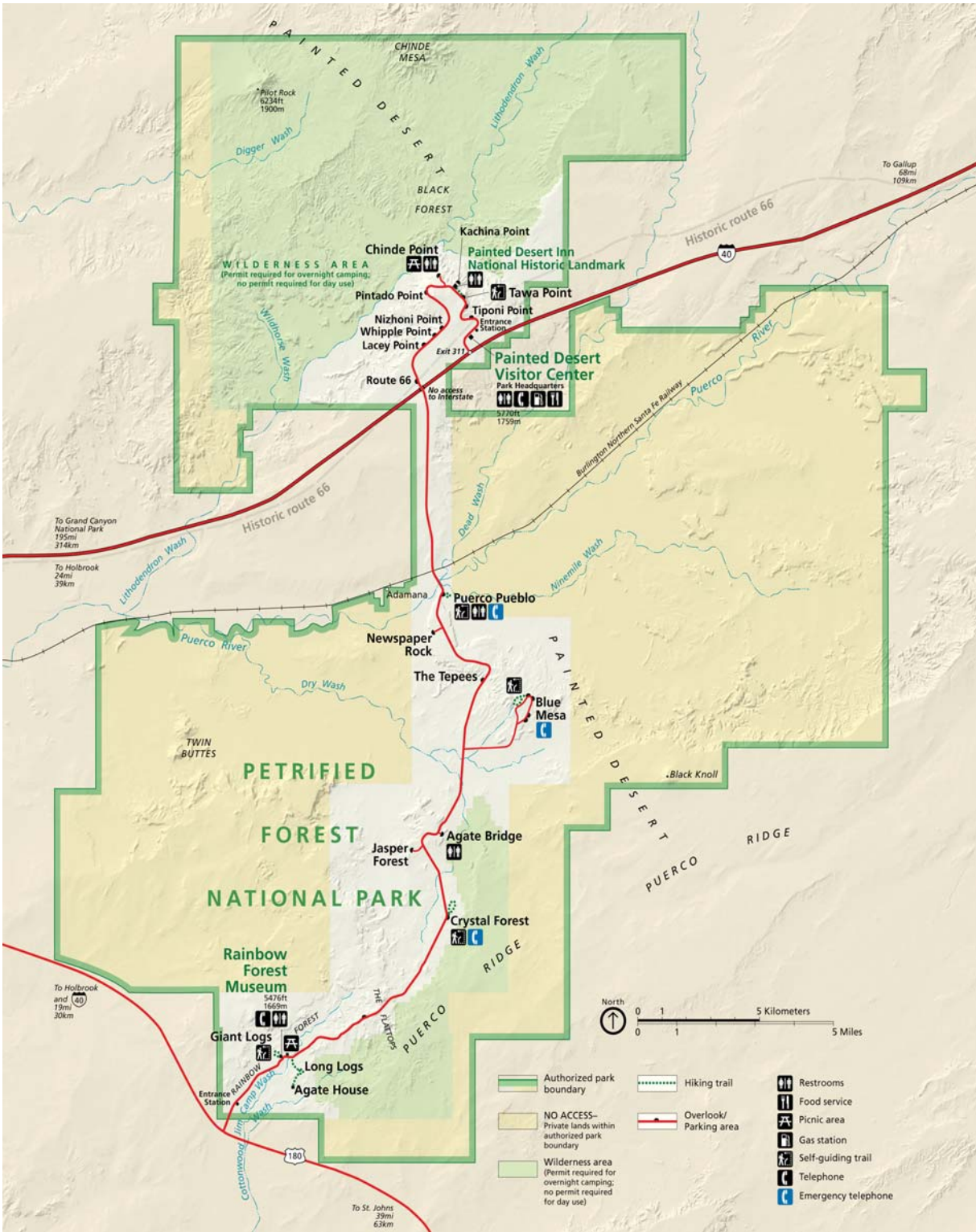
Do not feed, touch, tease, frighten, harm, or disturb any animals in the park.

Ground fires are prohibited. The use of solar, butane/propane, and white gas stoves and charcoal grills are allowed in designated picnic areas.

The consumption of alcohol or the presence of open alcoholic containers is prohibited, except in picnic areas.

All vehicles, including buses, minibuses and vans, are prohibited from idling their engines for extended periods of time. Idling shall not exceed five minutes during periods of inclement weather and two minutes all other times.

Firearms are prohibited in federal buildings.



What can I see?

If you have one hour:

- Stop at the Painted Desert Visitor Center
- Drive through the park
- Visit Rainbow Forest Museum

If you have several hours add:

- See the park film at the Painted Desert Visitor Center or Rainbow Forest Museum
- Stop at Kachina Point and Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark
- Stop at Pintado Point, Newspaper Rock, and Jasper Forest
- Walk Puerco Pueblo Trail
- Drive Blue Mesa Road
- Walk Giant Logs Trail (pick up a trail guide in the Museum)

If you have half a day add:

- Walk more of the developed trails


If you have a day or more add:

- Hike into the one of the units of the Petrified Forest National Wilderness Area

Accessibility



Most restrooms, visitor centers, and picnic areas are accessible or accessible with assistance for wheelchair users. The park film is Open Captioned. There is a free book in Braille available at the visitor centers. Service animals are always welcome in the park!



Did you know?
Arizona, except for the Navajo Nation, does not observe daylight savings, staying on Mountain Standard Time (MST) year round. In summer, we are the same time as the Pacific Time Zone; in winter, we are the same as the rest of the Mountain Time Zone.

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